



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

NEW TERRITORY

BY A. J. MCKELWAY.

Those of us who are in the midst of the fight are often disappointed that ideal child labor laws are not at once enacted, that our progress seems so slow. And yet, looking backward over the year's progress in the southern states, I think we have some cause for encouragement and congratulation.

The last year was an off-year in the meetings of the legislatures, and this year has not been completed so far as legislative sessions are concerned. We hope, for instance, that Alabama with regard to her child labor law will not say, "Alabama; here we rest;" but "Here we do not rest; we go forward."

Maryland

In Maryland we made two slight gains. There was a ten-hour law without any penalty for its violation, and the legislature fixed a suitable penalty. It also considered the night messenger service, and though we hoped for a more distinct gain, yet when we consider that formerly twelve-year-old boys were employed lawfully day or night in this most demoralizing business, we did advance in making fourteen years the limit for day work and sixteen years for night work in Maryland.

Virginia

In Virginia, where we have a fourteen-year age limit and a fair system of factory inspection, we were met by the enemy's demanding the repeal of the ten-hour day for women and children. Five manufacturers, all of them, I believe, cotton manufacturers, having been prosecuted for the violation of this law, carried their case to the Supreme Court to test the constitutionality of the law. While the case was pending they besieged the legislature to change the law from the ten-hour day to the sixty-hour week. They were the most benevolently inclined gentlemen that ever approached the legislature. They said that under the ten-hour day

they were not able to give even a half holiday on Saturday to their little employees, while with a sixty-hour week they could work them eleven hours a day for the first five days of the week, and then give them a half holiday on Saturday.

But thanks to the good women of Richmond the law remained as it was; the legislature refused to repeal the statute, and a few weeks afterward the Supreme Court declared it constitutional, and the gentlemen had to pay their fines.

Virginia also passed an act forbidding the sending of children, boys or girls, under seventeen years of age, to disreputable resorts. I feel sure that if the investigation of the night messenger service in Virginia had been made in time, we should have reached a higher standard. We all understand from experience that this law is insufficient, and we hope that we soon shall have a twenty-one-year age limit for the night messenger service in every state of the Union, as we now have in New York. But this was some progress in the right direction. It at least indicated that the state was looking at the moral side of the employment of children.

The battle in North and South Carolina has just been completed, of which a full report will be made by our agent for the Carolinas, Mr. Hollis. The South Carolina bill that was passed, eliminated the under-twelve exemption to the present law, made an age limit of sixteen for night work, while in North Carolina, the sixty-hour week was substituted for the sixty-six hour week.

And then the Governor of South Carolina disappointed all the friends of the child labor cause by vetoing the appropriation heretofore made for the two factory inspectors in South Carolina. He has been considerably hammered on that account throughout the state, and has lately announced that he has a fund of six thousand dollars for the employment of dispensary constables, and that he is going to put these constables to work to enforce the child labor law.

Georgia

By the action of the North and South Carolina legislatures we now have only one state, Georgia, which allows children under twelve years of age to work in the mills, and only one state, Georgia, that allows children to work more than sixty hours a week. So we are going to combine our forces upon Georgia next summer and

see if she shall allow herself to be left on this conspicuously bad eminence.

At the meeting of the Georgia Legislature last summer, one bill was passed, prohibiting day work for boys in the telegraph messenger service under fourteen and prohibiting night work for boys under sixteen. The opponents of the bill thought they had killed it in the Senate by a filibuster, but the filibusterer talked just about a half minute too short a time. The bill passed on the fifty-ninth second of the last hour of the session, and the president of the Senate remarked, "This bill having received a constitutional majority is thereby passed. The Senate stands adjourned *sine die*." It was a pretty close race against time.

Texas

We organized three committees in Texas to fight for a better child labor law. Texas already had a twelve-year age limit, some degree of factory inspection and a sixteen-year age limit for mines. One committee represented the women's clubs, another the labor unions, and a third the state conference of charities in Texas. Each of these bodies appointed a child labor committee, and through their efforts Texas has gone a step farther than any of the states, and has made a fifteen-year age limit for children in factories and a seventeen-year age limit for children working underground in mines. The bill has been signed by the Governor.

I was sent by our committee in November, 1910, to the last remaining territories in the United States, Arizona and New Mexico. I attended both of their constitutional conventions.

New Mexico

In New Mexico a resolution had already been passed making a fourteen-year age limit for the employment of children in mines; the territorial law was twelve. I found it impossible to get this changed to sixteen. The mine owners objected to it, and the friends of the children were afraid that the legislature in New Mexico might not even reach the fourteen-year limit. But the convention did pass a resolution directing the legislature to enact suitable laws for the protection of children in industry, and I suppose that if the word "suitable" is properly translated, the first legislature of the new state of New Mexico will pass an act which will be a good child labor law.

They also passed an excellent compulsory education provision in the New Mexico constitution, going beyond the present territorial law.

Arizona

Arizona had adopted a part of the old Oklahoma constitution which was not quite satisfactory, making a fifteen-year age limit for children in dangerous occupations only; but I was able to persuade the convention to adopt unanimously a plank which read something like this:

"That no child under fourteen years of age shall be employed in any gainful occupation during the time when the public schools are in session, nor shall any child under sixteen years of age be employed at night in any occupation, nor for more than eight hours in any one day, nor underground in mines, nor in any occupation injurious to health and morals, or dangerous to life or limb."

If the legislature carries out that provision, as doubtless it will, Arizona will have pretty nearly a model child labor law.

There were other things adopted in those two conventions that would be interesting to the friends of the children, but I shall not pause to mention them now, except, perhaps, that as Judge Feagin has spoken of the protection of the delinquent children, Arizona declared that no child under eighteen years of age shall be detained even over-night in any jail, or section of a jail, where adult prisoners are detained, and it provides for a system of juvenile courts. New Mexico also has a hint at that in its constitution.

And by the way, as I came through North Carolina the other day, I saw in a North Carolina paper that the legislature which has just adjourned has passed a law erecting a state reformatory for colored youth. I was in the fight four years ago for the establishment of a reformatory for white youth in North Carolina.

Mrs. Stonewall Jackson was one of the devoted friends of that measure, and wrote a personal letter to every member of the legislature. The legislature adopted that provision and the institution is called the Stonewall Jackson Training School.

It would have been impossible four years ago to establish an institution for the protection of the colored boys; but yet, mark you, the sentiment of justice is one of the strongest characteristics

of our Saxon race, and once the institution was provided for the protection of the white youth, people began to ask, "Why not one for the colored boys and girls also?" So the legislature has just responded to that sentiment of justice and directed the erection of the institution.